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# EXISTENCE OF QUASIISOMETRIC MAPPINGS AND ROYDEN COMPACTIFICATIONS (Potential Theory and its Related Fields)

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# EXISTENCE OF QUASIISOMETRIC MAPPINGS AND ROYDEN COMPACTIFICATIONS<sup>1</sup>

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**1. Introduction.** Consider a  $d$ -dimensional ( $d \geq 2$ ) Riemannian manifold  $D$  of class  $C^\infty$  which is orientable and countable but not necessarily connected and given an exponent  $1 < p < \infty$ . The Royden  $p$ -algebra  $M_p(D)$  of  $D$  is defined by  $M_p(D) := L^{1,p}(D) \cap L^\infty(D) \cap C(D)$ , which is a commutative Banach algebra, i.e. the so-called normed ring, under pointwise addition and multiplication with  $\|u; M_p(D)\| := \|u; L^\infty(D)\| + \|\nabla u; L^p(D)\|$  as norm, where  $L^{1,p}(D)$  is the Dirichlet space, i.e. the space of locally integrable real valued functions  $u$  on  $D$  whose distributional gradients  $\nabla u$  of  $u$  belong to  $L^p(D)$  considered with respect to the metric structure on  $D$ . The maximal ideal space  $D_p^*$  (cf. e.g. p.298 in [20]) of  $M_p(D)$  is referred to as the Royden  $p$ -compactification of  $D$ , which is also characterized as the compact Hausdorff space containing  $D$  as its open and dense subspace such that every function in  $M_p(D)$  is continuously extended to  $D_p^*$  and  $M_p(D)$  is uniformly dense in  $C(D_p^*)$  (cf. e.g. [17], [18], [11] and also p.154 in [14]).

Suppose that  $D$  and  $D'$  are  $d$ -dimensional ( $d \geq 2$ ) Riemannian manifolds of class  $C^\infty$  which are orientable and countable but not necessarily connected. Moreover we always assume in this note that none of the components of  $D$  and  $D'$  is compact, which is however not an essential restriction and postulated only for the sake of simplicity. In 1982, the present author and H. Tanaka [13] (see also [10]) jointly showed that two conformal Royden compactifications  $D_d^*$  and  $(D')_d^*$  are homeomorphic if and only if there exists an almost quasiconformal mapping of  $D$  onto  $D'$ . Here we say that a homeomorphism  $f$  of  $D$  onto  $D'$  is an *almost quasiconformal mapping* of  $D$  onto  $D'$  if there exists a compact subset  $E \subset D$  such that  $f = f|_{D \setminus E}$  is a quasiconformal mapping of  $D \setminus E$  onto  $D' \setminus f(E)$ . There are many ways of defining quasiconformality but the following metric definition is convenient for applying to Riemannian manifolds (cf. e.g. p.113 in [19]): the homeomorphism  $f$  of  $D \setminus E$  onto  $D' \setminus f(E)$  is *quasiconformal*, by definition, if

$$(2) \quad \sup_{x \in D \setminus E} \left( \limsup_{r \downarrow 0} \frac{\max_{\rho(x,y)=r} \rho'(f(x), f(y))}{\min_{\rho(x,y)=r} \rho'(f(x), f(y))} \right) < \infty,$$

where  $\rho$  and  $\rho'$  are geodesic distances on  $D \setminus E$  and  $D' \setminus f(E)$ . It has been an open question for a long period since the above result was obtained as for what can be said about the

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counterpart of the above result for nonconformal case, i.e. if the exponent  $d$  in the above result is replaced by  $1 < p < d$ . The *purpose* of this note is to settle this question by establishing the main theorem mentioned below.

To state our result we need to introduce a class of special kind of almost quasiconformal mappings. A homeomorphism  $f$  of  $D$  onto  $D'$  is said to be an *almost quasiisometric mapping* of  $D$  onto  $D'$  if there exists a compact set  $E \subset D$  such that  $f = f|D \setminus E$  is a quasiisometric mapping of  $D \setminus E$  onto  $D' \setminus f(E)$ . Here the homeomorphism  $f$  of  $D \setminus E$  onto  $D' \setminus f(E)$  is *quasiisometric*, by definition, if there exists a constant  $K \in [1, \infty)$  such that

$$(3) \quad \frac{1}{K} \rho(x, y) \leq \rho'(f(x), f(y)) \leq K \rho(x, y)$$

for every pair of points  $x$  and  $y$  in  $D \setminus E$ , where we always set  $\rho(x, y) = \rho'(f(x), f(y)) = \infty$  if the component of  $D \setminus E$  containing  $x$  and that containing  $y$  are different. From (3) it follows that

$$\frac{1}{K} r \leq \min_{\rho(x,y)=r} \rho'(f(x), f(y)) \leq \max_{\rho(x,y)=r} \rho'(f(x), f(y)) \leq Kr$$

for any fixed  $x \in D$  and for any sufficiently small positive number  $r > 0$ , which implies that the left hand side term of (2) is dominated by  $K^2$ . Thus a quasiisometric mapping is automatically a quasiconformal mapping but obviously there exists a quasiconformal mapping which is not a quasiisometric mapping. Then our main result of this paper is stated as follows.

**4. MAIN THEOREM.** *When  $1 < p < d$ , Royden compactifications  $D_p^*$  and  $(D')_p^*$  are homeomorphic if and only if there exists an almost quasiisometric mapping of  $D$  onto  $D'$ . More precisely, any almost quasiisometric mapping of  $D$  onto  $D'$  is uniquely extended to a homeomorphism of  $D_p^*$  onto  $(D')_p^*$ ; conversely, the restriction to  $D$  of any homeomorphism of  $D_p^*$  onto  $(D')_p^*$  is an almost quasiisometric mapping of  $D$  onto  $D'$ .*

It may be interesting to compare the above topological result with the former relevant algebraic results obtained by the present author [8] and [9], Lewis [6], and Lelon-Ferrand [5] (cf. also Soderborg [15]): Royden algebras  $M_d(D)$  and  $M_d(D')$  are algebraically isomorphic if and only if there exists a quasiconformal mapping of  $D$  onto  $D'$ ; when  $1 < p < d$ ,  $M_p(D)$  and  $M_p(D')$  are algebraically isomorphic if and only if there exists a quasiisometric mapping of  $D$  onto  $D'$ . All these results including our present main theorem are shown to be invalid when  $d < p < \infty$  by giving a counter example, which will be discussed elsewhere. Another important problem related to the above main result is the following: does the existence of an almost quasiisometric (almost quasiconformal, resp.) mapping of  $D$  onto  $D'$  imply that of a quasiisometric (quasiconformal, resp) mapping of  $D$  onto  $D'$ ? It is affirmative for the quasiconformal case if  $D$  is the unit ball in the  $d$ -dimensional Euclidean space  $\mathbf{R}^d$  (Gehring [2], see also Soderborg [16]); it is also affirmative again for the quasiconformal case if the dimensions of  $D$  and  $D'$  are 2. Except for these partial results though not easy to prove,

the problem is widely open.

**5. Royden compactifications of Riemannian manifolds.** By a *Riemannian manifold*  $D$  of dimension  $d \geq 2$  we always mean in this note an orientable and countable but not necessarily connected  $C^\infty$  manifold  $D$  of dimension  $d$  with a metric tensor  $(g_{ij})$  of class  $C^\infty$ . We also assume that any component of  $D$  is not compact only for the sake of simplicity.

We say that  $U$  or more precisely  $(U, x)$  is a *parametric domain* on  $D$  if the following two conditions are satisfied: firstly  $U$  is a domain, i.e. a connected open set, in  $D$ ; secondly  $x$  is a  $C^\infty$  diffeomorphism of  $U$  onto a domain  $x(U)$  in the Euclidean space  $\mathbf{R}^d$  of dimension  $d \geq 2$ . The map  $x = (x^1, \dots, x^d)$  is referred to as a *parameter* on  $U$ . We often identify a generic point  $P$  of  $U$  with its parameter  $x(P)$  and denote them by a same letter  $x$ , for example. In other words we view  $U$  to be embedded in  $\mathbf{R}^d$  by identifying  $U$  with  $x(U)$  so that  $U$  itself may be considered as a Riemannian manifold  $(U, g_{ij})$  with metric tensor  $(g_{ij})$  restricted on  $U$  and at the same time as an Euclidean subdomain  $(U, \delta_{ij})$  with the natural metric tensor  $(\delta_{ij})$ ,  $\delta_{ij}$  being the Kronecker delta.

Take a parametric domain  $(U, x)$  on  $D$ . The metric tensor  $(g_{ij})$  on  $D$  gives rise to a  $d \times d$  matrix  $(g_{ij}(x))$  of functions  $g_{ij}(x)$  on  $U$ . We say that  $(U, x)$  is a  $\lambda$ -domain with  $\lambda \in [1, \infty)$  if the following matrix inequalities hold:

$$(6) \quad \frac{1}{\lambda}(\delta_{ij}) \leq (g_{ij}(x)) \leq \lambda(\delta_{ij})$$

for every  $x \in U$ . It is important that any point of  $D$  has a  $\lambda$ -domain as its neighborhood for any  $\lambda \in (1, \infty)$ . This comes from the fact that there exists a parametric ball  $(U, x)$  at any point  $P \in D$  (i.e. a parametric domain  $(U, x)$  such that  $x(P) = 0$  and  $x(U)$  is a ball in  $\mathbf{R}^d$  centered at the origin 0) such that  $(g_{ij}(x))$  with respect to  $(U, x)$  satisfies  $g_{ij}(0) = \delta_{ij}$ .

The metric tensor  $(g_{ij})$  on  $D$  defines the line element  $ds$  on  $D$  by  $ds^2 = g_{ij}(x)dx^i dx^j$  in each parametric domain  $(U, x = (x^1, \dots, x^d))$ . Here and hereafter we follow the Einstein convention: whenever an index  $i$  appears both in the upper and lower positions, it is understood that summation for  $i = 1, \dots, d$  is carried out. The length of a rectifiable curve  $\gamma$  on  $D$  is given by  $\int_\gamma ds$ . The *geodesic distance*  $\rho(x, y)$  between two points  $x$  and  $y$  in  $D$  is given by

$$\rho(x, y) = \rho_D(x, y) = \inf_\gamma \int_\gamma ds,$$

where the infimum is taken with respect to rectifiable curves  $\gamma$  connecting  $x$  and  $y$ . Needless to say, if there is no such curve  $\gamma$ , i.e. if  $x$  and  $y$  are in the different components of  $D$ , then, as the infimum of empty set, we understand that  $\rho(x, y) = \infty$ . When  $(U, x)$  is a parametric domain and considered as the Riemannian manifold  $(U, \delta_{ij})$ , then  $\rho_U(x, y)$  can also be given by

$$\rho(x, y) = \rho_U(x, y) = \inf \sum_{i=0}^n |x_i - x_{i-1}|,$$

where the infimum is taken with respect to every polygonal line  $x = x_0, x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}, x_n = y$  such that every line segment  $[x_{i-1}, x_i] = \{(1-t)x_{i-1} + tx_i : 0 \leq t \leq 1\} \subset U$  for each  $i = 1, \dots, n$ .

We write  $(g^{ij}) := (g_{ij})^{-1}$  and  $g := \det(g_{ij})$ . We denote by  $dV$  the volume element on  $D$  so that

$$dV(x) = \sqrt{g(x)} dx^1 \wedge \dots \wedge dx^d$$

in each parametric domain  $(U, x = (x^1, \dots, x^d))$ . On  $(U, \delta_{ij})$  we also have the volume element (Lebesgue measure)  $dx = dx^1 \dots dx^d$ . Sometimes we use  $dx$  to mean  $(dx^1, \dots, dx^d)$  but there will be no confusion by context. The Riemannian volume element  $dV(x)$  and the Euclidean (Lebesgue) volume element  $dx$  are mutually absolutely continuous and the Radon-Nikodym densities  $dV(x)/dx = \sqrt{g(x)}$  and  $dx/dV(x) = 1/\sqrt{g(x)}$  are locally bounded on  $U$ . Thus a.e.  $dV$  and a.e.  $dx$  are identical and we can loosely use a.e. without referring to  $dV$  or  $dx$ .

For each  $x \in D$ , the tangent space to  $D$  at  $x$  will be denoted by  $T_x D$ . We denote by  $\langle h, k \rangle$  the inner product of two tangent vectors  $h$  and  $k$  in  $T_x D$  and by  $|h|$  the length of  $h \in T_x D$  so that if  $(h_1, \dots, h_d)$  and  $(k_1, \dots, k_d)$  are covariant components of  $h$  and  $k$ , then

$$\langle h, k \rangle = g^{ij} h_i k_j \quad \text{and} \quad |h| = \langle h, h \rangle^{1/2} = (g^{ij} h_i h_j)^{1/2}.$$

Since we may consider two metric tensors  $(g_{ij})$  and  $(\delta_{ij})$  on a parametric domain  $(U, x)$ , we occasionally write  $\langle h, k \rangle_{g_{ij}}$  or  $\langle h, k \rangle_{\delta_{ij}}$  and similarly  $|h|_{g_{ij}}$  or  $|h|_{\delta_{ij}}$  to make clear whether they are considered on  $(U, g_{ij})$  or on  $(U, \delta_{ij})$ .

Let  $G$  be an open subset of  $D$ . In this note we use the notation  $L^p(G)$  ( $1 \leq p \leq \infty$ ) in two ways. The first is the standard use:  $L^p(G) = L^p(G; g_{ij})$  is the Banach space of measurable functions  $u$  on  $G$  with the finite norm  $\|u; L^p(G)\|$  given by

$$\|u; L^p(G)\| := \left( \int_G |u|^p dV \right)^{1/p} \quad (1 \leq p < \infty)$$

and  $\|u; L^\infty(G)\|$  is the essential supremum of  $|u|$  on  $G$ . The second use: for a measurable vector field  $X$  on  $G$  we write  $X \in L^p(G) = L^p(G; g_{ij})$  if  $|X| = |X|_{g_{ij}} \in L^p(G)$  in the first sense and we set

$$\|X; L^p(G)\| := \| |X|; L^p(G) \|.$$

The *Dirichlet space*  $L^{1,p}(G) = L^{1,p}(G; g_{ij})$  ( $1 \leq p \leq \infty$ ) is the class of functions  $u \in L^1_{loc}(G)$  with the distributional gradients  $\nabla u \in L^p(G)$ , where the distributional gradient  $\nabla u$  is determined by the relation

$$\int_G \langle \nabla u, \Psi \rangle dV = - \int_G u \operatorname{div} \Psi dV$$

for every  $C^\infty$  vector field  $\Psi$  on  $G$  with compact support in  $G$ . In the parametric domain  $(U, x)$  in  $G$  we have  $\nabla u = (\partial u / \partial x^1, \dots, \partial u / \partial x^d)$ . If  $\Psi = (\psi_1, \dots, \psi_d)$  in  $U$ , then

$$\operatorname{div} \Psi = \frac{1}{\sqrt{g}} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} (\sqrt{g} g^{ij} \psi_j).$$

The Sobolev space  $W^{1,p}(G) = W^{1,p}(G, g_{ij})$  ( $1 \leq p \leq \infty$ ) is the Banach space  $L^{1,p}(G) \cap L^p(G)$  equipped with the norm

$$\|u; W^{1,p}(G)\| := \|u; L^p(G)\| + \|\nabla u; L^p(G)\|.$$

Given a Riemannian manifold  $D$  of dimension  $d \geq 2$  and given an exponent  $1 < p < \infty$ , the Royden  $p$ -algebra  $M_p(D)$  is the Banach algebra  $L^{1,p}(D) \cap L^\infty(D) \cap C(D)$  equipped with the norm

$$(7) \quad \|u; M_p(D)\| := \|u; L^\infty(D)\| + \|\nabla u; L^p(D)\|.$$

By the standard mollifier method we can show that the subalgebra  $M_p(D) \cap C^\infty(D)$  is dense in  $M_p(D)$  with respect to the norm in (7). Hence  $M_p(D)$  may also be defined as the completion of  $\{u \in C^\infty(D) : \|u; M_p(D)\| < \infty\}$  without appealing to the Dirichlet space. It is important that  $M_p(D)$  is closed under lattice operations  $\cup$  and  $\cap$  given by  $(u \cup v)(x) = \max(u(x), v(x))$  and  $(u \cap v)(x) = \min(u(x), v(x))$  (cf. e.g. p.21 in [4]). The maximal ideal space  $D_p^*$  of  $M_p(D)$  is referred to as the Royden  $p$ -compactification, which can also be characterized as the compact Hausdorff space containing  $D$  as its open and dense subspace such that every function  $u \in M_p(D)$  is continuously extended to  $D_p^*$  and  $M_p(D)$ , viewed as a subspace of  $C(D_p^*)$  by this continuous extension, is dense in  $C(D_p^*)$  with respect to its supremum norm.

**8. Capacities of rings.** A ring  $R$  in a Riemannian manifold  $D$  is a subset  $R$  of  $D$  with the following properties:  $R$  is a subdomain of  $D$  so that  $R$  is contained in a unique component  $D_R$  of  $D$ ;  $D_R \setminus R$  consists of exactly two components one of which, denoted by  $C_1$ , is compact and the other of which, denoted by  $C_0$ , is noncompact. The set  $C_1$  will be referred to as the *inner part* of  $R^c := D \setminus R$  and the set  $D \setminus (R \cup C_1)$  as the *outer part* of  $R^c$ . We denote by  $W(R)$  the class of functions  $u \in W_{loc}^{1,1}(R) \cap C(D)$  such that  $u = 1$  on the inner part of  $R^c$  and  $u = 0$  on the outer part of  $R^c$  which includes  $C_0$ . The  $p$ -capacity  $\text{cap}_p R$  ( $1 \leq p \leq \infty$ ) of the ring  $R \subset D$  is given by

$$(9) \quad \text{cap}_p R := \inf_{u \in W(R)} \|\nabla u; L^p(R)\|^p$$

for  $1 \leq p < \infty$  and  $\text{cap}_\infty R := \inf_{u \in W(R)} \|\nabla u; L^\infty(R)\|$ . Note that  $\text{cap}_p R$  does not depend upon which Riemannian manifold  $D$  the ring  $R$  is embedded as far as the metric structure on  $R$  is unaltered. The following inequality will be essentially made use of (cf. e.g. p.32 in [4]): if  $1 < p < \infty$  and if  $R$  is a ring in  $D$  and  $R_k$  ( $1 \leq k \leq n$ ) are disjoint rings contained in  $R$  each of which separates the boundary components of  $R$ , then

$$(10) \quad (\text{cap}_p R)^{\frac{1}{1-p}} \geq \sum_{k=1}^n (\text{cap}_p R_k)^{\frac{1}{1-p}}.$$

Suppose that a ring  $R$  is contained in a parametric domain  $(U, x)$  on  $D$  for which two metric structures  $(g_{ij})$  and  $(\delta_{ij})$  can be considered. If the need occurs to indicate that  $\text{cap}_p R$  is considered on  $(U, \delta_{ij})$ , then we write

$$\text{cap}_p R = \text{cap}_p(R, \delta_{ij}) = \inf_{u \in W(R)} \int_R |\nabla u(x)|_{\delta_{ij}}^p dx;$$

if  $\text{cap}_p R$  is considered on  $(U, g_{ij})$ , then we write

$$\text{cap}_p R = \text{cap}_p(R, g_{ij}) = \inf_{u \in W(R)} \int_R |\nabla u|_{g_{ij}}^p dV$$

for  $1 \leq p < \infty$ . Similar considerations are applied to  $\text{cap}_\infty(R, g_{ij})$  and  $\text{cap}_\infty(R, \delta_{ij})$ . If moreover  $U$  is a  $\lambda$ -domain for any  $\lambda \in [1, \infty)$ , then (6) implies that

$$(11) \quad \frac{1}{\lambda^{\frac{d+p}{2}}} \text{cap}_p(R, \delta_{ij}) \leq \text{cap}_p(R, g_{ij}) \leq \lambda^{\frac{d+p}{2}} \text{cap}_p(R, \delta_{ij}).$$

In the case  $p = \infty$ , the inequality corresponding to the above takes the following form:  $\lambda^{-1/2} \text{cap}_\infty(R, \delta_{ij}) \leq \text{cap}_\infty(R, g_{ij}) \leq \lambda^{1/2} \text{cap}_\infty(R, \delta_{ij})$ , which however will not be used in this note.

We fix a parametric domain  $(U, x)$  in  $D$ . It is possible that the parametric domain is the  $d$ -dimensional Euclidean space  $\mathbf{R}^d$  itself. A ring  $R$  contained in  $U$  is said to be a *spherical ring* in  $(U, x)$  if

$$(12) \quad R = \{x \in U : a < |x - P| < b\},$$

where  $P \in U$  and  $a$  and  $b$  are positive numbers with  $0 < a < b < \inf_U |x - P|$ . At this point we must be careful: in the case where the above  $R$  happens to be included in another parametric domain  $(V, y)$  of  $D$ ,  $R$  may not be a spherical ring in  $(V, y)$  even if  $R$  is a spherical ring in  $(U, x)$ . Namely, the notion of spherical rings cannot be introduced to the general Riemannian manifold  $D$  and is strictly attached to the parametric domain in question. Let  $R$  be a spherical ring in a parametric domain  $(U, x)$  with the above expression (12). Then we have (cf. e.g. p.35 in [4])

$$(13) \quad \text{cap}_p R = \text{cap}_p(R, \delta_{ij}) = \begin{cases} \omega_d \left( \frac{b^q - a^q}{q} \right)^{1-p} & (1 < p < \infty, p \neq d), \\ \omega_d \left( \log \frac{b}{a} \right)^{1-d} & (p = d), \end{cases}$$

where we have set  $q = (p - d)/(p - 1)$  and  $\omega_d$  is the surface area of the Euclidean unit sphere  $S^{d-1}$ . In passing we state that  $\text{cap}_1(R, \delta_{ij}) = \omega_d a^{d-1}$  and  $\text{cap}_\infty(R, \delta_{ij}) = 1/(b - a)$ , which are also not used in this note.

Another important ring in  $\mathbf{R}^d$  which we use later is a *Teichmüller ring*  $R_T$  defined by  $R_T = \mathbf{R}^d \setminus \{te_1 : t \in [-1, 0] \cup [1, \infty)\}$ , where  $e_1$  is the unit vector  $(1, 0, \dots, 0)$  in  $\mathbf{R}^d$ . We set

$$(14) \quad t_d := \text{cap}_d(R_T, \delta_{ij}).$$

Finally in this section we state a separation lemma on the topology of the Royden compactification. Let  $(R_n)_{n \geq 1}$  be a sequence of rings  $R_n$  in  $D$  ( $n = 1, 2, \dots$ ) with the following properties:  $(R_n \cup C_{n1}) \cap (R_m \cup C_{m1}) = \emptyset$  for  $n \neq m$ , where  $C_{n1}$  is the inner part of  $(R_n)^c = D \setminus R_n$ ;  $(R_n)_{n \geq 1}$  does not accumulate in  $D$ , i.e.  $\{n : E \cap (\overline{R_n} \cup C_{n1}) \neq \emptyset\}$  is a finite set for any compact set  $E$  in  $D$ . Such a sequence  $(R_n)_{n \geq 1}$  will be called an *admissible sequence*, which defines two disjoint closed sets  $X$  and  $Y$  in  $D$  as follows:

$$X := \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} C_{n1} \quad \text{and} \quad Y := \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} (D \setminus (R_n \cup C_{n1})).$$

We denote by  $\text{cl}(X; D_p^*)$  the closure of  $X$  in  $D_p^*$ . Although  $X \cap Y = \emptyset$  in  $D$ ,  $\text{cl}(X; D_p^*)$  and  $\text{cl}(Y; D_p^*)$  may intersect on the *Royden  $p$ -boundary*

$$\Gamma_p(D) := D_p^* \setminus D.$$

Concerning to this we have the following result.

15. LEMMA. *The set  $\text{cl}(\cup_{n=1}^{\infty} R_n; D_p^*)$  for an admissible sequence  $(R_n)_{n \geq 1}$  in  $D$  separates  $\text{cl}(X; D_p^*)$  and  $\text{cl}(Y; D_p^*)$  in  $D_p^*$  in the sense that*

$$(16) \quad (\text{cl}(X; D_p^*)) \cap (\text{cl}(Y; D_p^*)) = \emptyset$$

*if and only if*

$$(17) \quad \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \text{cap}_p R_n < \infty.$$

PROOF: First we show that (16) implies (17). By (16) the Urysohn theorem assures the existence of a function  $u \in C(D_p^*)$  such that  $u = 3$  on  $\text{cl}(X; D_p^*)$  and  $u = -2$  on  $\text{cl}(Y; D_p^*)$ . Since  $M_p(D)$  is dense in  $C(D_p^*)$ , there is a function  $v \in M_p(D)$  such that  $v > 2$  on  $X$  and  $v < -1$  on  $Y$ . Finally let  $w = ((v \cap 1) \cup 0) \in M_p(D)$ , which satisfies  $w|_X = 1$ ,  $w|_Y = 0$  and  $0 \leq w \leq 1$  on  $D$ . Set  $w_n = w$  on  $R_n \cup C_{n1}$  and  $w_n = 0$  on  $D \setminus (R_n \cup C_{n1})$  for  $n = 1, 2, \dots$ . Clearly  $w_n \in W(R_n)$  so that  $\text{cap}_p R_n \leq \|\nabla w_n; L^p(R_n)\|^p$  ( $n = 1, 2, \dots$ ) and  $w = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} w_n$ . Since the supports of  $w_n$  in  $D$  ( $n = 1, 2, \dots$ ) are mutually disjoint, we see that

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \text{cap}_p R_n \leq \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \|\nabla w_n; L^p(R_n)\|^p = \|\nabla w; L^p(D)\|^p \leq \|w; M_p(D)\|^p < \infty,$$

i.e. (17) has been deduced.



Conversely, suppose that (17) is the case. We wish to derive (16) from (17). Choose a function  $w_n \in W(R_n)$  such that  $\|\nabla w_n; L^p(R_n)\|^p < 2\text{cap}_p R_n$  for each  $n = 1, 2, \dots$ . We may suppose that  $0 \leq w_n \leq 1$  on  $D$  by replacing  $w_n$  with  $(w_n \cap 1) \cup 0$  if necessary (see e.g. p.20 in [4]). Clearly  $w := \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} w_n \in M_p(D)$  since  $\|w; L^\infty(D)\| = 1$  and

$$\|\nabla w; L^p(D)\|^p = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \|\nabla w_n; L^p(D_n)\|^p \leq 2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \text{cap}_p R_n < \infty.$$

Observe that  $w = 1$  on  $X$  and  $w = 0$  on  $Y$ . Hence, by the continuity of  $w$  on  $D_p^*$ , we see that  $w = 1$  on  $\text{cl}(X; D_p^*)$  and  $w = 0$  on  $\text{cl}(Y; D_p^*)$ , which yields (16).  $\square$

As a consequence of the separation lemma above we can characterize points in the Royden  $p$ -boundary  $\Gamma_p(D) = D_p^* \setminus D$  among points in  $D_p^*$  in terms of their being not  $G_\delta$  for  $1 \leq p \leq d$ . This is no longer true for  $d < p \leq \infty$ . Recall that a point  $\zeta \in D_p^*$  is said to be  $G_\delta$  if there exists a countable sequence  $(\Omega_i)_{i \geq 1}$  of open neighborhoods  $\Omega_i$  of  $\zeta$  such that  $\bigcap_{i \geq 1} \Omega_i = \{\zeta\}$ .

**18. COROLLARY TO LEMMA 15.** *A point  $\zeta$  in  $D_p^*$  ( $1 \leq p \leq d$ ) belongs to  $D$  if and only if  $\zeta$  is  $G_\delta$ .*

**PROOF:** We only have to show that  $\zeta \in \Gamma_p(D) = D_p^* \setminus D$  is not  $G_\delta$ . Contrariwise suppose  $\zeta$  is  $G_\delta$  so that there exists a sequence  $(\Omega_i)_{i \geq 1}$  of open neighborhoods of  $\zeta$  such that  $\Omega_i \supset \text{cl}(\Omega_{i+1}; D_p^*)$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots$ ) and  $\bigcap_{i \geq 1} \Omega_i = \{\zeta\}$ . Since  $D$  is dense in  $D_p^*$ ,  $H_i := D \cap (\Omega_i \setminus \text{cl}(\Omega_{i+1}; D_p^*))$  is a nonempty open subset of  $D$  for each  $i$ . Hence we can find a sequence  $(P_n)_{n \geq 1}$  of points  $P_n \in H_n$  ( $n = 1, 2, \dots$ ) and a sequence  $((U_n, x_n))_{n \geq 1}$  of 2-domains  $(U_n, x_n)$  contained in  $H_n$  ( $n = 1, 2, \dots$ ) such that  $U_n = \{x_n : |x_n - P_n| < r_n\}$  ( $r_n > 0$ ) ( $n = 1, 2, \dots$ ). Let  $R_n := \{x_n : a_n < |x_n - P_n| < b_n\}$  ( $0 < a_n < b_n := r_n/2$ ) be a spherical ring in  $(U_n, x_n)$ . Clearly  $(R_n)_{n \geq 1}$  is an admissible sequence. Since  $\text{cap}_p(R_n, \delta_{ij}) = \omega_d(|q|/(1 - (a_n/b_n)^{|q|}))^{p-1} a_n^{d-p}$  by (13) for  $1 < p < d$ ,  $\text{cap}_d(R_n, \delta_{ij}) = \omega_d/(\log(b_n/a_n))^{d-1}$ , and  $\text{cap}_1(R_n, \delta_{ij}) = \omega_d a_n^{d-1}$ , we can see that  $\text{cap}_p(R_n, \delta_{ij}) < 2^{-n}$  by choosing  $a_n \in (0, r_n/2)$  enough small so that  $\text{cap}_p R = \text{cap}_p(R, g_{ij}) \leq 2^{(d+p)/2} \text{cap}_p(R, \delta_{ij}) < 2^{(d+p)/2} 2^{-n}$  ( $n = 1, 2, \dots$ ) by (11). Hence (17) is satisfied but (16) is invalid because the intersection on the left hand side of (16) contains  $\zeta$  due to the fact that  $R_n \subset H_n$  ( $n = 1, 2, \dots$ ). This is clearly a contradiction to Lemma 15.  $\square$

**19. Analytic properties of quasiisometric mappings.** A *quasiisometric* (quasi-conformal, resp.) mapping  $f$  of a Riemannian manifold  $D$  onto another  $D'$  is, as defined in §1 (Introduction), a homeomorphism  $f$  of  $D$  onto  $D'$  such that  $K^{-1}\rho(x, y) \leq \rho(f(x), f(y)) \leq K\rho(x, y)$  for every pair of points  $x$  and  $y$  in  $D$  for some fixed  $K \in [1, \infty)$  ( $\sup_{x \in D} (\limsup_{r \downarrow 0} ((\max_{\rho(x, y)=r} \rho'(f(x), f(y))) / (\min_{\rho(x, y)=r} \rho'(f(x), f(y)))) < \infty$ , resp.), where  $\rho$  and  $\rho'$  are geodesic distances on  $D$  and  $D'$ , respectively. In this case we also say that  $f$  is  $K$ -quasiisometric referring to  $K$ . For simplicity, quasiisometric (quasiconformal, resp.) mappings will occasionally be abbreviated as qi (qc, resp.). Consider a  $K$ -qi  $f$  of a  $d$ -

dimensional Riemannian manifold  $D$  equipped with the metric tensor  $(g_{ij})$  onto another  $d$ -dimensional Riemannian manifold  $D'$  equipped with the metric tensor  $(g'_{ij})$ . Fix an arbitrary  $\lambda \in (0, \infty)$  and choose any  $\lambda$ -domain  $(U, x)$  in  $D$  and any  $\lambda$ -domain  $(U', x')$  in  $D'$  such that  $f(U) = U'$ . The mapping  $f : (U, \delta_{ij}) \rightarrow (U', \delta_{ij})$  has the representation

$$(20) \quad x' = f(x) = (f^1(x), \dots, f^d(x))$$

on  $U$  in terms of the parameters  $x$  and  $x'$ . As the composite mapping of  $id. : (U, \delta_{ij}) \rightarrow (U, g_{ij})$ ,  $f : (U, g_{ij}) \rightarrow (U', g'_{ij})$ , and  $id. : (U', g'_{ij}) \rightarrow (U', \delta_{ij})$ , we see that the mapping  $f : (U, \delta_{ij}) \rightarrow (U', \delta_{ij})$  is  $\lambda K$ -qi since  $id. : (U, \delta_{ij}) \rightarrow (U, g_{ij})$  and  $id. : (U', g'_{ij}) \rightarrow (U', \delta_{ij})$  are  $\sqrt{\lambda}$ -qi as the consequence of  $\lambda^{-1}|dx|^2 \leq ds^2 \leq \lambda|dx|^2$ , where  $dx = (dx^1, \dots, dx^d)$ ,  $|dx|^2 = \delta_{ij}dx^i dx^j$ , and  $ds^2 = g_{ij}(x)dx^i dx^j$ , which is deduced from  $\lambda^{-1}(\delta_{ij}) \leq (g_{ij}) \leq \lambda(\delta_{ij})$ . Hence we see that

$$(21) \quad \frac{1}{\lambda K}|x - y| \leq |f(x) - f(y)| \leq \lambda K|x - y|$$

whenever the line segment  $[x, y] := \{(1 - t)x + ty : t \in [0, 1]\} \subset U$  and  $[f(x), f(y)] \subset U'$ . In particular (21) implies that

$$(22) \quad \limsup_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{|f(x + h) - f(x)|}{|h|} \leq \lambda K < \infty$$

for every  $x \in U$  and

$$(23) \quad \liminf_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{|f(x + h) - f(x)|}{|h|} \geq \frac{1}{\lambda K} > 0.$$

As an important consequence of (22), the Rademacher-Stepanoff theorem (cf. e.g. p.218 in [1]) assures that  $f(x)$  is differentiable at a.e.  $x \in U$ , i.e.

$$(24) \quad f(x + h) - f(x) = f'(x)h + \varepsilon(x, h)|h| \quad \left( \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \varepsilon(x, h) = 0 \right)$$

for a.e.  $x \in U$ , where  $f'(x)$  is the  $d \times d$  matrix  $(\partial f^i / \partial x^j)$ . Fix an arbitrary vector  $h$  with  $|h| = 1$ . Then for any positive number  $t > 0$  we have, by replacing  $h$  in (24) with  $th$ ,

$$|f'(x)h| - |\varepsilon(x, th)| \leq \frac{|f(x + th) - f(x)|}{|th|}$$

and on letting  $t \downarrow 0$  we obtain by (22) that  $|f'(x)h| \leq \lambda K$ . Therefore

$$(25) \quad |f'(x)| := \sup_{|h|=1} |f'(x)h| \leq \lambda K$$

for a.e.  $x \in U$ . Similarly we have

$$|f'(x)h| + |\varepsilon(x, th)| \geq \frac{|f(x + th) - f(x)|}{|th|}$$

and hence by (23) we deduce  $|f'(x)h| \geq 1/\lambda K$ . Hence

$$(26) \quad l(f'(x)) := \inf_{|h|=1} |f'(x)h| \geq \frac{1}{\lambda K}.$$

From (25) it follows that  $|\partial f^i(x)/\partial x^j| \leq |f'(x)| \leq \lambda K$  for a.e.  $x \in U$  ( $i, j = 1, \dots, d$ ) and thus  $|\nabla f| = (\sum_{i=1}^d |\nabla f_i|^2)^{1/2} \in L^\infty(U)$ . By (21),  $f(x)$  is ACL (absolutely continuous on almost all straight lines which are parallel to coordinate axes). That  $f(x)$  is ACL and  $\nabla f \in L^\infty(U)$  is necessary and sufficient for  $f$  to belong to  $L^{1,\infty}(U)$  (cf. e.g. pp.8-9 in [7]) so that, by the continuity of  $f$ , we have

$$(27) \quad f \in W_{loc}^{1,\infty}(D).$$

By (25) and (26) we have the matrix inequality

$$l(f'(x))^2(\delta_{ij}) \leq f'(x)^* f'(x) \leq |f'(x)|^2(\delta_{ij})$$

for a.e.  $x \in U$ , where  $f'(x)^*$  is the transposed matrix of  $f'(x)$ . Let  $\lambda_1(x) \geq \dots \geq \lambda_d(x)$  be the square roots of the proper values of the symmetric positive matrix  $f'(x)^* f'(x)$ . Then

$$\frac{1}{\lambda K} \leq l(f'(x)) = \lambda_d(x) \leq \dots \leq \lambda_1(x) = |f'(x)| \leq \lambda K.$$

Observe that  $\prod_{i=1}^d \lambda_i(x)^2 = \det(f'(x)^* f'(x)) = (\det f'(x))^2$  is the square of the Jacobian  $J_f(x)$  of  $f$  at  $x$ . Hence, by  $\lambda K \lambda_i \geq 1$  ( $i = 2, 3, \dots, d$ ), we see that

$$\begin{aligned} |f'(x)|^p &= \lambda_1(x)^p \leq \lambda_1(x)(\lambda K)^{p-1} \leq \lambda_1(x)(\lambda K)^{p-1} \prod_{i=2}^d (\lambda K \lambda_i(x)) \\ &= (\lambda K)^{d+p-2} \prod_{i=1}^d \lambda_i(x) = (\lambda K)^{d+p-2} |J_f(x)|, \end{aligned}$$

i.e. we have deduced that

$$(28) \quad |f'(x)|^p \leq (\lambda K)^{d+p-2} |J_f(x)|$$

for a.e.  $x \in U$ . This is used to prove the following result.

**29. PROPOSITION.** *The pull-back  $v = u \circ f$  of any  $u$  in  $M_p(D')$  by a  $K$ -qi  $f$  of  $D$  onto  $D'$  belongs to  $M_p(D)$  and satisfies the inequality*

$$(30) \quad \int_D |\nabla v(x)|_{g_{ij}}^p \sqrt{g(x)} dx \leq K^{d+p-2} \int_{D'} |\nabla u(x')|_{g'_{ij}}^p \sqrt{g'(x')} dx'$$

and in particular

$$(31) \quad \|v; M_p(D)\| \leq K^{(d+p-2)/p} \|u; M_p(D')\|.$$

PROOF: The inequality (30) is nothing but  $\|\nabla v; L^p(D)\| \leq K^{(d+p-2)/p} \|\nabla u; L^p(D')\|$ . This with  $\|v; L^\infty(D)\| = \|u; L^\infty(D')\|$  implies (31). Suppose that Proposition 29 is true if  $u \in M_p(D') \cap C^\infty(D')$ . Since  $M_p(D') \cap C^\infty(D')$  is dense in  $M_p(D')$ , for an arbitrary  $u \in M_p(D')$ , there exists a sequence  $(u_k)_{k \geq 1}$  in  $M_p(D') \cap C^\infty(D')$  such that  $\|u - u_k; M_p(D')\| \rightarrow 0$  ( $k \rightarrow \infty$ ). In particular  $\|u_k - u_{k'}; M_p(D')\| \rightarrow 0$  ( $k, k' \rightarrow \infty$ ). By our assumption,  $v_k := u_k \circ f \in M_p(D)$  ( $k = 1, 2, \dots$ ). By (31), the inequalities  $\|v_k - v_{k'}; M_p(D)\| \leq K^{(d+p-2)/p} \|u_k - u_{k'}; M_p(D')\|$  assure that  $\|v_k - v_{k'}; M_p(D)\| \rightarrow 0$  ( $k, k' \rightarrow \infty$ ). By the completeness of  $M_p(D)$ , since  $\|v - v_k; L^\infty(D)\| \rightarrow 0$  ( $k \rightarrow \infty$ ), we see that  $v \in M_p(D)$ . By the validity of (30) (and hence of (31)) for  $v_k$ , we see that (30) is valid for  $v$ . For this reason we can assume  $u \in M_p(D') \cap C^\infty(D')$  to prove Proposition 29.

It is clear by (25) that  $v = u \circ f \in W_{loc}^{1,\infty} \cap L^\infty(D) \cap C(D)$  if  $u \in M_p(D') \cap C^\infty(D')$ . Hence we only have to prove (30) to deduce  $v \in M_p(D)$ . Fix an arbitrary  $\lambda \in (1, \infty)$ . Let  $D = \bigcup_{k=1}^\infty E_k$  be a union of disjoint Borel sets  $E_k$  in  $D$  such that each  $E_k$  is contained in a  $\lambda$ -domain  $U_k$  in  $D$  and  $E'_k = f(E_k)$  in a  $\lambda$ -domain  $U'_k = f(U_k)$  in  $D'$  for  $k = 1, 2, \dots$ . Fix a  $k$  and consider the  $\lambda K$ -qi  $f$  of  $(U_k, \delta_{ij})$  onto  $(U'_k, \delta_{ij})$  with the representation (20) on  $U_k$  in terms of the parameter  $x$  in  $U_k$  and  $x'$  in  $U'_k$ . By the chain rule we have

$$(32) \quad \nabla v(x) = f'(x)^* \nabla u(f(x))$$

for a.e.  $x \in U_k$ . Since  $|f'(x)^*| = |f'(x)|$ , (28) and (32) yield

$$|\nabla v(x)|^p \leq (\lambda K)^{d+p-2} |\nabla u(f(x))|^p |J_f(x)|$$

for a.e.  $x \in U_k$ . In view of (22), the formula of the change of variables in integrations is valid for  $x' = f(x)$ :

$$\int_{E_k} |\nabla u(f(x))|^p |J_f(x)| dx = \int_{E'_k} |\nabla u(x')|^p dx'.$$

From the above two displayed relations we deduce

$$\int_{E_k} |\nabla v(x)|^p dx \leq (\lambda K)^{d+p-2} \int_{E'_k} |\nabla u(x')|^p dx'.$$

Observe that  $|\nabla v|_{g_{ij}}^p \leq \lambda^{p/2} |\nabla v|^p$  and  $\sqrt{g} \leq \lambda^{d/2}$ , and similarly, that  $|\nabla u|^p \leq \lambda^{p/2} |\nabla u|_{g'_{ij}}^p$  and  $1 \leq \lambda^{d/2} \sqrt{g'}$ . The above displayed inequality then implies that

$$\int_{E_k} |\nabla v(x)|_{g_{ij}}^p \sqrt{g(x)} dx \leq \lambda^{2(d+p-1)} K^{d+p-2} \int_{E'_k} |\nabla u(x')|^p \sqrt{g'(x')} dx'.$$

On adding these inequalities for  $k = 1, 2, \dots$  we obtain (30) with  $K^{d+p-2}$  replaced by  $\lambda^{2(p+d-1)} K^{d+p-2}$ . Since  $\lambda \in (1, \infty)$  is arbitrary, we deduce (30) itself by letting  $\lambda \downarrow 1$ .  $\square$

**33. Distortion of rings and their capacities.** Throughout this section we fix two nonempty open sets  $V$  and  $V'$  in  $\mathbf{R}^d$  (or, what amounts to the same, two parametric domains

$(V, x)$  and  $(V', x')$  in certain Riemannian manifolds  $D$  and  $D'$ , respectively, considered as  $(V, \delta_{ij})$  and  $(V', \delta_{ij})$  and consider homeomorphisms  $f$  of  $V$  onto  $V'$ . We introduce two classes of such homeomorphisms  $f$ . The first class  $Lip(K) = Lip(K; V, V')$  for a positive constant  $K \in (0, \infty)$  is the family of homeomorphisms  $f$  of  $V$  onto  $V'$  such that

$$(34) \quad \limsup_{r \downarrow 0} \frac{\max_{|x-P|=r} |f(x) - f(P)|}{r} \leq K$$

at every point  $P \in V$ . If the inverse  $f^{-1}$  of a homeomorphism  $f$  of  $V$  onto  $V'$  satisfies the similar property as (34), then we should write  $f^{-1} \in Lip(K; V', V)$  but we often loosely write  $f^{-1} \in Lip(K)$ . This class was first introduced by Gehring [3]. Note that  $f(R)$  may be viewed as a ring in  $V'$  in the natural fashion along with a ring  $R$  in  $V$ : the inner part and the outer part of  $f(R)^c = V' \setminus f(R)$  are the images of those of  $R^c = V \setminus R$  under  $f$ , respectively. For each  $p \in (1, \infty)$  the second class  $Q_p(K, \delta) = Q_p(K, \delta; V, V')$  for two constants  $K \in (0, \infty)$  and  $\delta \in (0, \infty]$  is defined to be the family of homeomorphisms  $f$  of  $V$  onto  $V'$  satisfying the following condition:

$$(35) \quad \text{cap}_p f(R) \leq K \text{cap}_p R$$

for every spherical ring  $R$  in  $V$  such that  $\bar{R} \subset V$  and

$$(36) \quad \text{cap}_p R < \delta.$$

In the case  $\delta = \infty$  the condition (36) is redundant and thus the condition is given only by (35). The same remark as for the use of notation  $f^{-1} \in Lip(K)$  also applies to the use of  $f^{-1} \in Q_p(K, \delta)$ . Clearly we see that  $Q_p(K, \infty) \subset Q_p(K, \delta) \subset Q_p(K', \delta')$  for  $0 < K \leq K' < \infty$  and  $0 < \delta' \leq \delta \leq \infty$ . The class  $Q_p(K, \infty)$  was introduced by Gehring [3] under the notation  $Q_p(K)$ . The following result plays a key role in the proof of our main theorem 4 in this paper.

**37. LEMMA.** *Suppose that  $1 \leq p < d$ ,  $0 < K < \infty$ , and  $0 < \delta \leq \infty$  are arbitrarily given. Then  $f, f^{-1} \in Q_p(K, \delta)$  implies that  $f, f^{-1} \in Lip(K_1)$ , where  $K_1$  depends only upon  $d, p$ , and  $K$  and does not depend on  $\delta$ . Explicitly,  $K_1$  can be chosen as*

$$(38) \quad K_1 = K_1(K) := K^{\frac{1}{d-p}} \exp \left( \left( 2^{d+1} \omega_d^{1+\frac{1}{d}} K^{\frac{2(d-1)}{d-p}} t_d^{-\frac{1}{d}} \right)^{\frac{d}{d-1}} \right).$$

Recall that  $t_d$  was given in (14). This lemma 37 is partly a generalization of the Gehring theorem ([3]):  $f, f^{-1} \in Q_p(K, \infty)$  for  $1 \leq p < \infty$  with  $p \neq d$  and  $0 < K < \infty$  implies  $f, f^{-1} \in Lip(K')$ , where  $K'$  depends only upon  $d, p$ , and  $K$ . Namely, Lemma 37 contains the Gehring theorem for  $1 \leq p < d$ . However Lemma 37 is no longer true especially for small finite positive numbers  $\delta > 0$  if  $1 \leq p < d$  is replaced by  $d < p \leq \infty$ . Nevertheless,

Lemma 37 can be proven by suitably modifying the original Gehring proof ([3]) of his theorem. A complete proof of Lemma 37 can be found in [12].

If we assume that  $f$  is  $K_1$ -qi, then  $f, f^{-1} \in Lip(K_1)$ , which is the conclusion of Lemma 37, follows immediately. We now prove the converse of this so that  $f, f^{-1} \in Lip(K)$  can be used for the definition of  $K$ -qi in the case of mappings between space open sets.

39. LEMMA. *If  $f, f^{-1} \in Lip(K)$ , then  $f$  is a  $K$ -qi of  $V$  onto  $V'$ .*

PROOF: We define positive numbers  $s(r) > 0$  for sufficiently small positive numbers  $r > 0$  by  $\min_{|x-P|=r} |f(x) - f(P)| =: s(r)$  for an arbitrarily fixed  $P \in V$ . On setting  $P' := f(P)$  we see that  $\max_{|x'-P'|=s(r)} |f^{-1}(x') - f^{-1}(P')| = r$ . Observe that  $s(r) \downarrow 0$  as  $r \downarrow 0$ . Hence, by  $f^{-1} \in Lip(K) = Lip(K; V', V)$ , we see that

$$\begin{aligned} \limsup_{r \downarrow 0} \frac{r}{s(r)} &= \limsup_{r \downarrow 0} \frac{\max_{|x'-P'|=s(r)} |f^{-1}(x') - f^{-1}(P')|}{s(r)} \\ &\leq \limsup_{s \downarrow 0} \frac{\max_{|x'-P'|=s} |f^{-1}(x') - f^{-1}(P')|}{s} \leq K. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore we infer that

$$\begin{aligned} \limsup_{r \downarrow 0} \frac{\max_{|x-P|=r} |f(x) - f(P)|}{\min_{|x-P|=r} |f(x) - f(P)|} &= \limsup_{r \downarrow 0} \left( \frac{\max_{|x-P|=r} |f(x) - f(P)|}{r} \cdot \frac{r}{s(r)} \right) \\ &\leq \left( \limsup_{r \downarrow 0} \frac{\max_{|x-P|=r} |f(x) - f(P)|}{r} \right) \cdot \left( \limsup_{r \downarrow 0} \frac{r}{s(r)} \right) \leq K^2, \end{aligned}$$

which concludes that  $f$  is a qc of  $V$  onto  $V'$  by the metric definition (2) of quasiconformality. This assures that  $f$  is differentiable a.e. on  $V$  and  $f \in W_{loc}^{1,d}(V)$  (cf. e.g. pp.109-111 in [19]). The latter in particular implies that  $f$  is ACL in an arbitrarily given direction  $l$ :  $f$  is absolutely continuous on almost all straight lines which are parallel to  $l$ . Suppose that  $f$  is differentiable at  $x \in V$ , i.e.

$$f(x+h) - f(x) = f'(x)h + \varepsilon(x, h)|h| \quad (\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \varepsilon(x, h) = 0).$$

For any  $|h| = 1$  and any small  $t > 0$ , we have

$$|f'(x)h| \leq \frac{|f(x+th) - f(x)|}{|th|} + |\varepsilon(x, th)| \leq \frac{\max_{|y-x|=t} |f(y) - f(x)|}{t} + |\varepsilon(x, th)|.$$

On letting  $t \downarrow 0$  we deduce  $|f'(x)h| \leq K$  since  $f \in Lip(K)$ . We can thus conclude that

$$(40) \quad |f'(x)| = \sup_{|h|=1} |f'(x)h| \leq K$$

for a.e.  $x \in U$ . We now maintain that

$$(41) \quad |f(x) - f(y)| \leq K|x - y|$$

for any line segment  $[x, y] = \{(1-t)x + ty : t \in [0, 1]\} \subset V$ . Since  $f$  is ACL in the direction of  $[x, y]$ , we see that  $f$  is absolutely continuous in  $V$  on almost all straight lines  $L$  parallel to  $[x, y]$ . As a consequence of (40),  $|f'(x)| \leq K$  in  $V$  on almost all straight lines  $L$  parallel to  $[x, y]$  a.e. with respect to the linear measure on  $L$ . Hence we can find a sequence of line segments  $[x_n, y_n] \subset V$  with the following properties:  $x_n \rightarrow x$  and  $y_n \rightarrow y$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ;  $f$  is absolutely continuous on  $[x_n, y_n]$ ;  $|f'(x)| \leq K$  a.e. on  $[x_n, y_n]$  with respect to the linear measure. Then

$$\begin{aligned} |f(x_n) - f(y_n)| &\leq \int_{[x_n, y_n]} |df(z)| = \int_{[x_n, y_n]} |f'(z)| dz \\ &\leq \int_{[x_n, y_n]} |f'(z)| |dz| \leq K \int_{[x_n, y_n]} |dz| = K|x_n - y_n|, \end{aligned}$$

i.e.  $|f(x_n) - f(y_n)| \leq K|x_n - y_n|$  ( $n = 1, 2, \dots$ ), from which (41) follows by the continuity of  $f$ . By the symmetry of the situations for  $f$  and  $f^{-1}$ , we deduce the same inequality for  $f^{-1}$  so that

$$\frac{1}{K}|x - y| \leq |f(x) - f(y)| \leq K|x - y|$$

for every  $x$  and  $y$  in  $V$  with  $[x, y] \subset V$  and  $[f(x), f(y)] \subset V'$ . Thus we can show the validity of (3) with respect to  $\delta_{ij}$ -geodesic distances  $\rho$  on  $V$  and  $\rho'$  on  $V'$  so that  $f : V \rightarrow V'$  is a  $K$ -qi.  $\square$

Combining Lemmas 37 and 39, we obtain the following result, which will be used in the final part of the proof of the main theorem 4.

**42. THEOREM.** *Suppose that  $1 \leq p < d$ ,  $0 < K < \infty$ , and  $0 < \delta \leq \infty$  are arbitrarily given. Then  $f, f^{-1} \in Q_p(K, \delta)$  implies that  $f$  is a  $K_1$ -qi of  $V$  onto  $V'$ , where  $K_1 = K_1(K)$  is given by (38) so that it is independent of  $\delta$ .*

**43. Proof of the main theorem.** In this section we assume that the exponent  $p$  is fixed in  $(1, d)$  and we choose two Riemannian manifolds  $D$  and  $D'$  of the same dimension  $d \geq 2$  which are orientable and countable and any component of  $D$  and  $D'$  is not compact. The proof of the main theorem 4 consists of two parts.

*First part:* Assume that there exists an almost quasiisometric mapping  $f$  of  $D$  onto  $D'$ , i.e.  $f$  is a homeomorphism of  $D$  onto  $D'$  and there exists a compact subset  $E \subset D$  such that  $f|_{D \setminus E}$  is a  $K$ -quasiisometric mapping of  $D \setminus E$  onto  $D' \setminus E'$ , where  $E' = f(E)$  is a compact subset of  $D'$  and  $K$  a constant in  $[1, \infty)$ . We are to show that  $f$  can be extended to a homeomorphism  $f^*$  of the Royden compactification  $D_p^*$  of  $D$  onto that  $(D')_p^*$  of  $D'$ . Choose an arbitrary point  $\xi$  in the Royden  $p$ -boundary  $\Gamma_p(D) = D_p^* \setminus D$ . Since  $D$  is dense in  $D_p^*$ , the point  $\xi$  is an accumulation point of  $D$ .

We first show that the net  $(f(x_\lambda))$  in  $D'$  converges to a point  $\xi' \in \Gamma_p(D')$  for any net  $(x_\lambda)$  in  $D$  convergent to  $\xi$ . Clearly  $(f(x_\lambda))$  does not accumulate at any point in  $D'$  along with  $(x_\lambda)$  so that the cluster points of  $(f(x_\lambda))$  are contained in  $\Gamma_p(D')$ . Contrariwise we assume the existence of two subnets  $(x_{\lambda'})$  and  $(x_{\lambda''})$  of  $(x_\lambda)$  such that  $(f(x_{\lambda'}))$  and  $(f(x_{\lambda''}))$  are convergent to  $\eta'$  and  $\eta''$  in  $\Gamma_p(D')$ , respectively, with  $\eta' \neq \eta''$ . Since  $M_p(D')$  is dense in  $C((D')^*_p)$  and forms a lattice, we can find a function  $u \in M_p(D')$  such that  $u \equiv 0$  in a neighborhood  $G'$  of  $E'$ ,  $u(\eta') = 0$ , and  $u(\eta'') = 1$ . Viewing  $u \in M_p(D' \setminus E')$ , we see by Proposition 29 that  $v := u \circ f \in M_p(D \setminus E)$ . Since  $v \equiv 0$  on the neighborhood  $G = f^{-1}(G')$  of  $E = f^{-1}(E')$ , we can conclude that  $v \in M_p(D)$ . From  $v(x_{\lambda'}) = u(f(x_{\lambda'}))$  and  $v(x_{\lambda''}) = u(f(x_{\lambda''}))$  it follows that  $v(\xi) = u(\eta') = 0$  and  $v(\xi) = u(\eta'') = 1$ , which is a contradiction.

We next show that the nets  $(f(x_{\lambda'}))$  and  $(f(y_{\lambda''}))$  in  $D'$  converge to a point in  $\Gamma_p(D')$  for any two nets  $(x_{\lambda'})$  and  $(y_{\lambda''})$  convergent to  $\xi \in \Gamma_p(D)$ . In fact, let  $(z_\lambda)$  be a net convergent to  $\xi$  such that  $(z_\lambda)$  contains  $(x_{\lambda'})$  and  $(y_{\lambda''})$  as its subnets. Then we see that  $\lim_\lambda f(x_{\lambda'}) = \lim_{\lambda''} f(y_{\lambda''}) = \lim_\lambda f(z_\lambda)$ . Hence we have shown that  $f^*(\xi) := \lim_{x \in D, x \rightarrow \xi} f(x) \in \Gamma_p(D')$  for any  $\xi \in \Gamma_p(D)$ . On setting  $f^* = f$  on  $D$ , we see that  $f^*$  is a continuous mapping of  $D^*_p$  onto  $(D')^*_p$ . The uniqueness of  $f^*$  on  $D^*_p$  is a consequence of the denseness of  $D$  in  $D^*_p$ . Similarly we can show that  $f^{-1}$  can also be uniquely extended to a continuous mapping  $(f^{-1})^*$  of  $(D')^*_p$  onto  $D^*_p$ . Since  $(f^{-1})^* \circ f^*$  and  $f^* \circ (f^{-1})^*$  are identities on  $D^*_p$  and  $(D')^*_p$ , respectively, as the unique extensions of  $id. : D \rightarrow D$  and  $id. : D' \rightarrow D'$ , respectively, we see that  $f^*$  is a homeomorphism of  $D^*_p$  onto  $(D')^*_p$  which is the unique extension of  $f : D \rightarrow D'$ .  $\square$

*Second part :* Suppose the existence of a homeomorphism  $f^*$  of  $D^*_p$  onto  $(D')^*_p$ . We are to show that  $f := f^*|D$  is an almost quasiisometric mapping of  $D$  onto  $D'$ , which is the essential part of this note.

Choose an arbitrary point  $x \in D$ . Since  $x$  is  $G_\delta$ ,  $f^*(x) \in (D')^*_p$  is also  $G_\delta$  so that  $f^*(x) \in D'$  by Corollary 18. Thus we have shown that  $f^*(D) \subset D'$ . Similarly we can conclude that  $(f^*)^{-1}(D') \subset D$ . These show that  $f^*(D) = D'$  and therefore  $f := f^*|D$  is a homeomorphism of  $D$  onto  $D'$ . We are to show that  $f$  is an almost quasiisometric mapping of  $D$  onto  $D'$ .

We fix a family  $\mathcal{V} = \mathcal{V}_D = \{V\}$  of open sets  $V$  in  $D$  with the following properties:  $V$  is contained in a 2-domain  $U_V$  in  $D$  and  $V' := f(V)$  is contained in the 2-domain  $U'_{V'} = f(U_V)$  in  $D'$ ;  $\cup_{V \in \mathcal{V}} V = D$ . This is possible since the family of 2-domains forms a base of open sets on any Riemannian manifold and  $f : D \rightarrow D'$  is a homeomorphism. We set  $\mathcal{V}' := \{V' : V' = f(V) \ (V \in \mathcal{V})\}$ , which enjoys the same properties as  $\mathcal{V}$  does. We also fix an exhaustion  $(\Omega_n)_{n \geq 1}$  of  $D$ , i.e.  $\Omega_n$  is a relatively compact open subset of  $D$  ( $n = 1, 2, \dots$ ),  $\overline{\Omega_n} \subset \Omega_{n+1}$  ( $n = 1, 2, \dots$ ), and  $\cup_{n \geq 1} \Omega_n = D$ . Then  $(\Omega'_n)_{n \geq 1}$  with  $\Omega'_n := f(\Omega_n)$  ( $n = 1, 2, \dots$ ) also forms an exhaustion of  $D'$ . We set  $D_n := D \setminus \overline{\Omega_n}$  and  $D'_n := f(D_n) = D' \setminus \overline{\Omega'_n}$  ( $n = 1, 2, \dots$ ). Then  $(D_n)_{n \geq 1}$  ( $(D'_n)_{n \geq 1}$ , resp.) is a decreasing sequence of open sets  $D_n$



( $D'_n$ , resp.) with compact complements  $D \setminus D_n$  ( $D' \setminus D'_n$ , resp.) such that  $\cap_{n \geq 1} D_n = \emptyset$  ( $\cap_{n \geq 1} D'_n = \emptyset$ , resp.). If we set  $\mathcal{V}_{D_n} := \{V \cap D_n : V \in \mathcal{V}_D \text{ and } V \cap D_n \neq \emptyset\}$  ( $n = 1, 2, \dots$ ), then  $\mathcal{V}_{D_n}$  plays the same role for  $D_n$  as  $\mathcal{V}$  does for  $D$ . Take an arbitrary  $n \in \{1, 2, \dots\}$ . If  $f \in Q_p(2^{n+p-1}, 2^{-n}; V \cap D_n, V' \cap D'_n)$  ( $f^{-1} \in Q_p(2^{n+p-1}, 2^{-n}; V' \cap D'_n, V \cap D_n)$ , resp.) for every  $V \in \mathcal{V}$  with  $V \cap D_n \neq \emptyset$  (so that  $V' \cap D'_n \neq \emptyset$ ), where  $V' = f(V)$  and  $V' \cap D'_n = f(V) \cap f(D_n) = f(V \cap D_n)$ , then we write

$$f \in (n) \quad (f^{-1} \in (n), \text{ resp.}).$$

Hence, for example,  $f \notin (n)$  means that there exists a  $V \in \mathcal{V}$  with  $V \cap D_n \neq \emptyset$  such that  $f \notin Q_p(2^{n+p-1}, 2^{-n}; V \cap D_n, V' \cap D'_n)$ . We maintain

44. **ASSERTION.** *If  $f \in (n)$  ( $f^{-1} \in (n)$ , resp.) for some  $n$ , then  $f \in (m)$  ( $f^{-1} \in (m)$ , resp.) for every  $m \geq n$ .*

In fact,  $f \in (n)$  assures that  $f \in Q_p(2^{n+p-1}, 2^{-n}; V \cap D_n, V' \cap D'_n)$  for every  $V \in \mathcal{V}$  with  $V \cap D_n \neq \emptyset$ . Choose any  $V \in \mathcal{V}$  with  $V \cap D_m \neq \emptyset$ . Since  $D_m \subset D_n$ ,  $V \cap D_n \neq \emptyset$  along with  $V \cap D_m \neq \emptyset$  and therefore  $f \in Q_p(2^{n+p-1}, 2^{-n}; V \cap D_n, V' \cap D'_n)$ . In view of the fact that  $2^{n+p-1} \leq 2^{m+p-1}$  and  $2^{-n} \geq 2^{-m}$ , we have the inclusion relation  $Q_p(2^{m+p-1}, 2^{-m}; V \cap D_m, V' \cap D'_m) \supset Q_p(2^{n+p-1}, 2^{-n}; V \cap D_n, V' \cap D'_n)$  so that  $f \in Q_p(2^{m+p-1}, 2^{-m}; V \cap D_m, V' \cap D'_m)$ , i.e.  $f \in (m)$ , which completes the proof of Assertion 44. Next we assert

45. **ASSERTION.** *If  $f \in (n)$  and  $f^{-1} \in (n)$  for some  $n$ , then  $f = f|_{D_n}$  is a qi of  $D_n$  onto  $D'_n$ .*

Indeed, by Theorem 42, we see that  $f : (V \cap D_n, \delta_{ij}) \rightarrow (V' \cap D'_n, \delta_{ij})$  is a  $K_1$ -qi with  $K_1 = K_1(2^{n+p-1})$  (cf. (38) in Lemma 37). Clearly  $id. : (V \cap D_n, g_{ij}) \rightarrow (V \cap D_n, \delta_{ij})$  and  $id. : (V' \cap D'_n, \delta_{ij}) \rightarrow (V' \cap D'_n, g'_{ij})$  are  $\sqrt{2}$ -qi, where  $(g'_{ij})$  is the metric tensor on  $D'$ . Therefore, as the suitable composition of these maps above, we see that  $f : (V \cap D_n, g_{ij}) \rightarrow (V' \cap D'_n, g'_{ij})$  is a  $2K_1$ -qi. Since this is true for every  $V \in \mathcal{V}$  with  $V \cap D_n \neq \emptyset$  and  $\cup_{V \in \mathcal{V}} V = D \supset D_n$ , we can conclude that  $f : D_n \rightarrow D'_n$  is a  $2K_1$ -qi. The proof of Assertion 45 is thus complete.

To complete the proof of this second part it is sufficient to show that  $f : D_n \rightarrow D'_n$  is a qi for some  $n$ . We prove it by contradiction. Contrariwise suppose that  $f : D_n \rightarrow D'_n$  is not qi for every  $n = 1, 2, \dots$ . Then we maintain that either  $f \notin (n)$  for every  $n$  or  $f^{-1} \notin (n)$  for every  $n$ . In fact, if  $f \notin (n)$  for every  $n$ , then we are done. Otherwise, there is a  $k$  with  $f \in (k)$ . Then by Assertion 44 we have  $f \in (n)$  for every  $n \geq k$ . In this case we must have  $f^{-1} \notin (n)$  for every  $n$  and the assertion is assured. To see this assume that  $f^{-1} \in (l)$  for some  $l$ . Then  $f^{-1} \in (n)$  for every  $n \geq l$  again by Assertion 44. Then  $f \in (k \cup l)$  and  $f^{-1} \in (k \cup l)$ . By Assertion 45 we see that  $f$  is a qi of  $D_{k \cup l}$  onto  $D'_{k \cup l}$ , contradicting our assumption. On interchanging the roles of  $f$  and  $f^{-1}$  (and thus those of  $D$  and  $D'$ ) if

necessary, we can assume that

$$f \notin (n) \quad (n = 1, 2, \dots),$$

from which we will derive a contradiction.

The fact that  $f \notin (1)$  implies the existence of a 2-domain  $V \in \mathcal{V}_{D_1}$  such that  $f \notin Q_p(2^{1+p-1}, 2^{-1}; V, f(V))$ . We can then find a spherical ring  $S_1 \subset V (\subset D_1)$  such that

$$\text{cap}_p S_1 < 2^{-1}, \quad \text{cap}_p f(S_1) > 2^{1+p-1} \text{cap}_p S_1.$$

Here  $\text{cap}_p S_1$  means  $\text{cap}_p(S_1, \delta_{ij})$ . We set  $n_1 := 1$ . Let  $n_2$  be the least integer such that  $n_2 \geq n_1 + 1$  (and hence  $D_{n_1+1} \supset D_{n_2}$ ) and  $\overline{D_{n_2}} \cap \overline{S_{n_1}} = \emptyset$ . Since  $f \notin (n_2)$ , there exists a  $V \in \mathcal{V}_{D_{n_2}}$  with  $f \notin Q_p(2^{n_2+p-1}, 2^{-n_2}; V, f(V))$ . Hence we can find a spherical ring  $S_{n_2} \subset V (\subset D_{n_2})$  such that

$$\text{cap}_p S_{n_2} < 2^{-n_2}, \quad \text{cap}_p f(S_{n_2}) > 2^{n_2+p-1} \text{cap}_p S_{n_2},$$

where  $\text{cap}_p S_{n_2}$  means  $\text{cap}_p(S_{n_2}, \delta_{ij})$ . Repeating this process we can construct a sequence  $(S_{n_k})_{k \geq 1}$  of spherical rings  $S_{n_k}$  with the following properties:  $n_k + 1 \leq n_{k+1}$ ;  $S_{n_k} \subset D_{n_k}$ ;  $\overline{S_{n_k}} \cap \overline{S_{n_l}} = \emptyset$  ( $k \neq l$ );

$$(46) \quad \text{cap}_p S_{n_k} < 2^{-n_k}, \quad \text{cap}_p f(S_{n_k}) > 2^{n_k+p-1} \text{cap}_p S_{n_k} \quad (k = 1, 2, \dots).$$

Fix a  $k$  and set  $T = S_{n_k}$ . Since it is a spherical ring in a 2-domain  $(U_{V_{n_k}}, x)$  and contained in  $V_{n_k}$ ,  $T$  has a representation  $T = \{x : a < |x - P| < b\}$ , where  $P \in V_{n_k}$  and  $0 < a < b < \infty$ . Let  $l = [(2^{-n_k}/\text{cap}_p T)^{1/(p-1)}] > 0$ , where  $[ \ ]$  is the Gaussian symbol, which means that

$$(47) \quad l^{p-1} \leq \frac{2^{-n_k}}{\text{cap}_p T} < (l+1)^{p-1} \leq 2^{p-1} l^{p-1}.$$

Using the notation  $q = (p-d)/(p-1)$  (cf. (13)) we set

$$t_j := \left( \frac{(l-j)a^q + jb^q}{l} \right)^{\frac{1}{q}} \quad (j = 0, 1, \dots, l).$$

We divide the ring  $T$  into  $l$  small spherical rings  $T_j$  given by

$$T_j := \{x : t_{j-1} < |x - P| < t_j\} \quad (j = 0, 1, \dots, l).$$

By (13) we have  $\text{cap}_p T = \text{cap}_p(T, \delta_{ij}) = \omega_d((b^q - a^q)/q)^{1-p}$ . Similarly

$$\text{cap}_p T_j = \omega_d \left( \frac{t_j^q - t_{j-1}^q}{q} \right)^{1-p}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \omega_d \left( \frac{\frac{(l-j)a^q + jb^q}{l} - \frac{(l-j+1)a^q + (j-1)b^q}{l}}{q} \right)^{1-p} \\
&= \omega_d \left( \frac{b^q - a^q}{q} \right) l^{p-1} = l^{p-1} \text{cap}_p T,
\end{aligned}$$

i.e. we have shown that  $\text{cap}_p T_j = l^{p-1} \text{cap}_p T$ . Therefore we have the following identity for the subdivision  $\{T_j\}_{1 \leq j \leq l}$  of  $T$ :

$$(48) \quad \sum_{j=1}^l (\text{cap}_p T_j)^{\frac{1}{1-p}} = (\text{cap}_p T)^{\frac{1}{1-p}}.$$

Concerning the induced subdivision  $\{f(T_j)\}$  of  $f(T)$ , the general inequality (10) implies the inequality

$$(49) \quad \sum_{j=1}^l (\text{cap}_p f(T_j))^{\frac{1}{1-p}} \leq (\text{cap}_p f(T))^{\frac{1}{1-p}}.$$

Now suppose that  $\text{cap}_p f(T_j) \leq 2^{n_k+p-1} \text{cap}_p T_j$  for every  $1 \leq j \leq l$ . Then  $(\text{cap}_p f(T_j))^{1/(1-p)} \geq 2^{(n_k+p-1)/(1-p)} (\text{cap}_p T_j)^{1/(1-p)}$  for every  $1 \leq j \leq l$ . By using (49) and (48) we deduce

$$\begin{aligned}
(\text{cap}_p f(T))^{\frac{1}{1-p}} &\geq \sum_{j=1}^l (\text{cap}_p f(T_j))^{\frac{1}{1-p}} \\
&\geq 2^{\frac{n_k+p-1}{1-p}} \sum_{j=1}^l (\text{cap}_p T_j)^{\frac{1}{1-p}} = 2^{\frac{n_k+p-1}{1-p}} (\text{cap}_p T)^{\frac{1}{1-p}},
\end{aligned}$$

which means that  $\text{cap}_p f(T) \leq 2^{n_k+p-1} \text{cap}_p T$ . This contradicts (46) since  $T = S_{n_k}$ . Therefore there must exist a number  $j_0 \in \{1, \dots, l\}$  such that

$$(50) \quad \text{cap}_p f(T_{j_0}) > 2^{n_k+p-1} \text{cap}_p T_{j_0}.$$

We now set  $R_k := T_{j_0}$ . By (47) we have  $l^{p-1} \text{cap}_p T \leq 2^{-n_k} \leq 2^{p-1} l^{p-1} \text{cap}_p T$ . Since  $l^{p-1} \text{cap}_p T = \text{cap}_p T_{j_0} = \text{cap}_p R_k$ , we see that

$$\text{cap}_p R_k \leq 2^{-n_k} \leq 2^{p-1} \text{cap}_p R_k.$$

This is equivalent to  $\text{cap}_p R_k \leq 2^{-n_k} (< 2^{-k}$  (since  $n_k > k$ )) and  $\text{cap}_p R_k \geq 2^{-n_k-p+1}$ . The latter inequality with (50) implies that  $\text{cap}_p f(R_k) > 2^{n_k+p-1} \text{cap}_p R_k \geq 2^{n_k+p-1} \cdot 2^{-n_k-p+1} = 1$ . By (46),  $\text{cap}_p(R_k, g_{ij}) < 2^{(d+p)/2} \cdot 2^{-k}$  and  $\text{cap}_p(f(R_k), g_{ij}) > 2^{(d+p)/2}$ .

We have thus constructed an admissible sequence  $(R_k)_{k \geq 1}$  of rings  $R_k$  in  $D$  in the sense of §8 (cf. Lemma 15) such that  $\text{cap}_p R_k = \text{cap}_p(R_k, g_{ij})$  and  $\text{cap}_p f(R_k) = \text{cap}_p(f(R_k), g'_{ij})$  satisfy

$$(51) \quad \text{cap}_p R_k < 2^{(d+p)/2} \cdot 2^{-k} \quad \text{and} \quad \text{cap}_p f(R_k) > 2^{(d+p)/2}$$

for every  $k = 1, 2, \dots$ . Let  $C_{k1}$  be the inner part of  $R_k^c = D \setminus R_k$  and we set

$$X := \bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} C_{k1} \quad \text{and} \quad Y := \bigcap_{k=1}^{\infty} (D \setminus (R_k \cup C_{k1}))$$

as in §8 (cf. Lemma 15). The first inequality in (51) implies that

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \text{cap}_p R_k < \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} 2^{\frac{d+p}{2}} \cdot 2^{-k} = 2^{\frac{d+p}{2}} < \infty$$

and therefore Lemma 15 assures that

$$(\text{cl}(X; D_p^*)) \cap (\text{cl}(Y; D_p^*)) = \emptyset.$$

Due to the fact that  $f^*$  is a homeomorphism of  $D_p^*$  onto  $(D'_p)^*$ , we see that

$$\begin{aligned} (\text{cl}(f(X); (D'_p)^*)) \cap (\text{cl}(f(Y); (D'_p)^*)) &= f^*(\text{cl}(X; D_p^*)) \cap f^*(\text{cl}(Y; D_p^*)) \\ &= f^*((\text{cl}(X; D_p^*)) \cap (\text{cl}(Y; D_p^*))) = f^*(\emptyset) = \emptyset. \end{aligned}$$

Since again  $(f(R_k))_{k \geq 1}$  is an admissible sequence of rings  $f(R_k)$  on  $D'$ , the above relation must imply by Lemma 15 that  $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \text{cap}_p f(R_k) < \infty$ . However the second inequality in (51) implies that

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \text{cap}_p f(R_k) \geq \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} 2^{\frac{d+p}{2}} = \infty,$$

which is a contradiction. This comes from the erroneous assumption that  $f : D_n \rightarrow D'_n$  is not a qi for every  $n = 1, 2, \dots$ , and thus we have established the existence of an  $n$  such that  $f = f|_{D_n}$  is a qi of  $D_n$  onto  $D'_n$ . The second part of the proof for the main theorem 4 is herewith complete.  $\square$

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